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4. TITLE AND SUBTITI	Æ			5a. CONTRACT	NUMBER			
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6. AUTHOR(S)				5d. PROJECT N	UMBER			
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# **Emerging Ideas**

Relating EVM to "Real" Schedules
Wayne Abba

Dekker, Lid



### **Old Concepts - New Ideas**

- Schedule variance
  - What it is
    - Strengths
    - Weaknesses (misunderstandings?)
  - Unleashing the power of schedule information
    - Reconciling earned value schedule and "real" schedule
- Cost variance
- Risk management
- Management reporting and presentation





### **Schedule Variance**

- Definition
  - Earned Value (BCWP) minus Planned Value (BCWS)
- Positive (+) variance indicates volume of work performed ahead of plan
- Negative (-) variance indicates volume of work performed behind plan





### Schedule Variance Example

Planned value: 50

Earned value: 40

Actual cost: 35

◆ Schedule variance = 40 - 50 = (10)

◆ Schedule variance percent = 10/50 = 20%

• Schedule performance index = 40/50 = .8

What does this tell us?

Behind schedule?

What? By how much?





### **The Maligned Metric**

- "Schedule" Variance
  - Doesn't measure time
  - Doesn't reveal if the right work was done
  - A positive variance is not necessarily good
  - A negative variance is not necessarily bad
  - What good is it?
- Sound and fury...







### **Discussion**

- Issue
  - Doesn't measure time

- Doesn't identify work
- "+" may be bad

"-" may be good

#### Reason

- Measures value of work completed vs. planned on same basis (\$, hrs.)
- Requires 'drill down' analysis
- Work done not on critical path; offsetting variances masked
- Float





### Schedule Variance: Strengths

- Provides reliable early warning
  - When large, early and unfavorable
  - Observations on 100's of DoD contracts
- Reflects cost/schedule integration
  - Work breakdown structure
  - Performance measurement baseline

There is no cost variance but there is a large negative schedule variance







# Schedule Variance: Misunderstandings

- Earned value technique was developed for cost measurement, not scheduling
  - Three basic elements
    - Planned value
    - Earned value
    - Actual cost

- Data needed to obtain
- Objective cost measurement
- Earned value measures work accomplished
  - Better term "accomplishment variance?"
  - Must be used with other schedule information





### The Time is Right for Change



- Better environment
  - Earned value redefined from reporting to management
- Better tools
  - Relational data bases
  - True cost/schedule integration - earned value & critical path
  - Timely data (weekly earned value becoming common)





### **Unleashing the Power**

- By itself, schedule variance reveals no intelligence about critical path
  - How are cost and schedule integrated?
    - Planned value at early start creates earliest possible variance information
    - But also creates "meaningless" schedule variance
      - Later integration creates less negative variance and correspondingly less management information
  - There is no industry standard
    - ◆ DEKKER TRAKKER™ uses early start date





### **Unleashing the Power**

#### Solution

- Take advantage of earliest practical information
  - BCWS at early start
  - A later date cannot optimize management information
- Use data base engine capabilities
  - Integrate schedule and earned value information
  - Part of management process
  - "Report up," not "drill down"
- Create new schedule variance subcategories





## **Schedule Variance Categories**

- "Problem"
  - Critical tasks that did not start early
- "Late with Float"
  - Tasks that did not start early but are not critical
- "Purposely Delayed"
  - Tasks delayed due to work-around (user flag)
- "Early"
  - Tasks begun ahead of early start
- "Anomalies/Errors" (user flag)





### Schedule Variance Example

• Schedule variance 40 - 50 = (10)

Problem - 2 \*

Late with float - 6 \*

Purposely delayed - 4

*Early* + <u>2</u> \* - 10

\*tracked automatically





### **Cost Variance**

- Definition
  - Earned Value (BCWP) minus Actual Cost (ACWP)
- Positive (+) variance indicates underrun for work completed to date and work in process
- Negative (-) variance indicates overrun for work completed to date and work in process





### **Cost Variance Categories**

- Similar to Schedule Variance
  - Understood & accepted
- Subcategories
  - "Positive"
  - "Negative"
  - "Anomalies/Errors"
- Avoid "washout" of lower level variances







### **Cost Variance Example**

• Cost variance 40 - 35 = 5

\*tracked automatically





### Risk Management

- Better risk identification work in process
- "Watch List"
  - Prospective analysis to identify tasks that will affect critical path if not begun on schedule
    - 30/60/90 day
    - Relate to risk management
- Management vs. reporting
  - Data base engine is key
  - Extract intelligence from data to create meaningful management outputs





### **Management Presentation**

- Customer understanding
  - Integrated Baseline Review
  - External customers
- Customer reports
  - Categorize variances
  - Management charts
    - Lines/colors
    - Web delivery
  - Problem notification by e-mail







GENERATED BY DEKKER TRAKKER CLASSIFICATION REPORT VALUES FACTORED BY: 1 PAGE 1 Cost Performance Report - CPR - Form CONTRACTOR: Acme Widgets CONTRACT TYPE/NO: REPORT PERIOD SIGNATURE, TITLE & DATE FORM APPROVED PROGRAM NAME/NUMBER LOCATION: 123 South Sunset Road IMPLA904 OMB NUMBER Taos, New Mexico 07/31/1999 22R0200 PRODUCTION: A7894324 Widget RDT&E: NEGOTIATED COST EST COST AUTH, UNPRICED WORK TGT PROFIT/FEE % ESTIMATED PRICE SHARE RATIO CONTRACT CEILING EST CONTRACT CEILING QUANTITY TGT PRICE \$150,000 500.00 \$526,954 11% \$1,245 \$1,145 \$600,000 \$625,000 CURRENT PERIOD CUMULATIVE TO DATE AT COMPLETION GRAMMING ADJUSTMENTS ACTUAL ACTUAL ITEM BUDGETED COST VARIANCE BUDGETED COST VARIANCE LATEST COST COST WORK WORK COST REVISED WORK PERFORMED VARIANCE SCHEDULED PERFORMED SCHEDULE COST SCHEDULED PERFORMED PERFORMED SCHEDULE COST /ARIANCE BUDGET BUDGETED ESTIMATE Product Development \$33,54 \$85.23 \$16,40 \$51,68 \$68.834 \$139,264 \$139,76 \$68,300 \$149.60 \$76,050 \$73.550 \$1,436 \$1,200 \$1,43 \$1,436 \$7,050 \$1,436 \$-5,614 \$7,770 \$-7,770 2110 Applications 2120 Applications \$63,96 \$68,850 \$-63.96 \$-68,850 \$223,022 \$103,410 \$254,390 \$-119,612 \$-150,980 \$249,200 \$450,970 \$-201,776 2130 Technical Writing \$12,10 \$11,67 \$12,000 \$-325 \$17,050 \$15,950 \$16,600 \$-1,100 \$22,000 \$22,650 \$-650 \$341 \$-1,259 \$2,38 \$-2.384 \$74 \$2,000 \$741 \$-337 \$2,800 \$463 \$-2.337 \$3.040 \$-3.040 \$5,510 \$4,750 \$760 \$9,500 4100 **Technical Services** \$4,94 \$9,500 \$9,500 \$9,500 \$9.500 \$135 \$150 \$-11 \$672 4120 \$139 \$-672 \$1,119 \$1,170 \$-51 \$2,705 \$5,684 \$-1,515 5100 \$1,660 \$2,347 \$4,169 \$246 \$-754 \$2,502 \$24 \$24 \$-154 \$246 \$1,000 \$-2.502 5120 Customer Training \$452 \$280 \$452 \$172 \$452 \$1,120 \$452 \$-668 \$1,813 \$-1,813 6100 Quality Assurance \$185 \$200 \$185 \$-15 \$185 \$800 \$185 \$-615 \$896 \$-896 6110 Systems QA \$185 \$200 \$18 \$-15 \$185 \$800 \$-615 \$-896 6120 Applications QA \$106,800 Subtotal: \$114.97 \$107.38 \$-7.58 \$585 \$390.496 \$274.81 \$367.66 \$-115,682 \$-92,85 \$434.46 \$584,833 \$-150,364 \$5,35 \$7,747 \$6,812 \$25,873 \$22,037 \$42,578 \$-3,836 \$-20,54 \$28,150 \$60,08 \$-31,937 Labor Overhead G&A \$8.08 \$7.93 \$7,940 \$-150 \$27,961 \$19,022 \$30,248 \$46,111 \$-15,091 Subtotal \$13,44 \$15,67 \$-47,028 **DoD Cost Performance** Report





Project. IMPLA904

Report Name: Planned By: David Lamont

07PRF7VAR

**CPR 5-Variance Analysis** WBS 1.4 Software Develop

04/10/1999 Run Date.

09.23 Run Time.

Status Date: 07/31/1999 RES0210 Form:

Project Title

Master Implementation of ABC/EVMS

Project - WBS Number 1.4

Cost Account Title

1.4

Cost Account Manager

		Current Period			Cumulative-To-Date					
BCWS	BCWP	ACWP	Sched Var	Cost Var	BCWS	BCWP	ACWP	Sched Var	Cost Var	
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Cause

**Schedule Variance Categories** 

**Problem** Late with float Delayed





Project. IMPLA904

07PRF7VAR

David Lamont

CPR 5-Variance Analysis WBS 1.4 Software Develop Run Date. 04/10/1999

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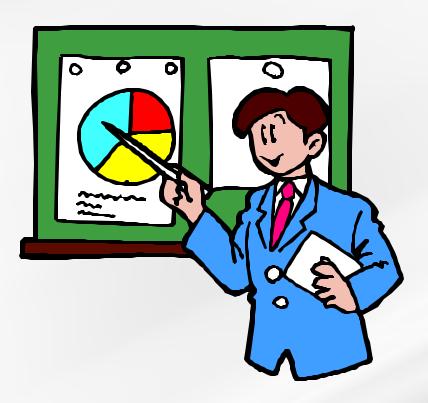
Cost Variance Categories
Positive

Negative





# **Management Charts**



- Refine current designs
  - Cost/schedule variance trends
    - More than one schedule variance line
- New types
  - Pie chart
- Web-based presentation
- Automatic e-mail notices





### **Coming Attractions**

- Display overtarget baselines clearly
- Display relationship between cost variance and financial status (for example, share lines)





### Summary

- State of the art in cost/schedule integration
  - Made possible by state of the art software
- Better integration of earned value and risk management
- Powerful management information outputs
- Raising the bar for integrated project management tools

